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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Ali Saleh, H. Michael Zadikian, Zareh Baghdasarian, Vahid Parsi
Assignee: Cisco Technology, Inc.
Title: Method for Routing Information Over a Network
Serial No.: 09/232,397 Filing Date: January 15, 1999
Examiner: H. Nguyen Group Art Unit: 2662
Docket No.: M-7165 US



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San Jose, California
February 14, 2002

Technology Center 2600

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office action dated January 14, 2002, having a one month period for response set to expire on February 14, 2002.

ELECTION

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement stated in the above-referenced Office action and, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §121 and 37 C.F.R. §1.143, provisionally elect to examine Group I., Claims 1-13, 33 and 35, drawn to subject matter wherein packets of information are communicated between two or more stations on physical paths or circuits, classified in class 370, subclass 397.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the basis that the groups relate to an apparatus and a method for making the apparatus. Accordingly, the inventions are not distinct and a requirement for restriction should not have been made.

Please cancel claims 14-32, 34, 36 and 37 without prejudice.

LAW OFFICES OF
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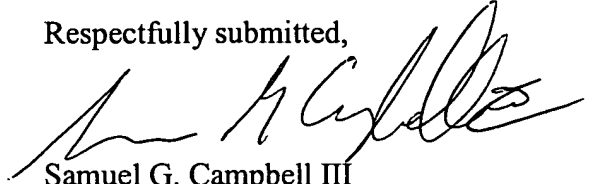
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Applicants' cancellation of claims in no way reflects on the patentability or nonpatentability of the canceled claims. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the non-elected claims in Group I in a divisional application without prejudice.

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Respectfully submitted,



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